

FREE PRESS.

MAAS JULIAN, - - Editor.

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1883.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT SAN MARCOS TEXAS AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

The Proprietor Controls ALL the Advertising in this Paper, on the INSIDE as well as the Outside Pages.

The West Texas Conference will meet at San Marcos this fall.

Gov. Quid died a few days since, at Havana, Cuba, of yellow fever.

We regret to notice by the Seguin Times of last week, that Dr. Yandell, owing to continued ill-health, has retired from the editorial tripod of that paper, and leased it for a term of years to Dr. Barbour, who will succeed him. Dr. Y. however announced that as proprietor of the paper he will retain his membership in the Press Association, and attend to his duties as president of the same.

A STRIKE of telegraph operators has been in progress for some days. It is conceded that they are in the right; that the Union Company, making in the profits by the million, affords the operators a very inadequate compensation. Such being the fact, we hope they will be able to hold out till they bring the Company to reasonable terms. It is a case where other organizations of working men should render sufficient aid to secure this righteous result.

Somewhat Personal

A few weeks since, as our readers will recollect, we had occasion to notice the course of the Kyle Nutshell in stigmatizing us as a "foreigner," and as wielding a bad and unfriendly influence in this community. We should have said then, what we say now, that we noticed that paper and its publisher mainly as the mouth-piece of a few personal malignants who have waged war on us ever since we began publishing a paper in this county. It is only in this point of view that the Nutshell or its manager was ever entitled to any notice from us, and it is only as representing the little squad of unreasoning hostiles to the Free Press and its editor, that we take the following from the last notice of the Nutshell. Speaking of the editor of the Free Press it says: "We have never yet flaunted the bloody shirt in the face of a hapless people. We have never had to throw up our principles and people and seek shelter among those whom we had worked so assiduously to crush; neither have we cast ourselves among a people and clandestinely advocated principles which we knew were antagonistic to their interest and feelings."

As to the above intimation that we have done any of the things stated, we have to say most emphatically that the charge is utterly false. Here in San Marcos the charge was long since met and exploded. It was made in the spring and summer of 1875 during the effort which was avowedly made to run us out by starting another paper for that purpose. We met the charge in all its forms, and to the entire satisfaction of our patrons in this part of the county. The result was that the parties most active in getting up the opposition to us, came under general public condemnation, and were glad to drop the subject. But the above paragraph proves, what we had heard, that in the mountains and other remote parts of the county, the idea is carefully disseminated by representatives of the political influence which was defeated here, that we are playing a double or doubtful part, and in short "are not sound on the goose." We are told that the idea has thus become somewhat prevalent in remote points in the county that we are "a wolf in sheep's clothing," and are here for the purpose of accumulating a fortune off of a people with whom we have no political sympathy. What an idea! that, even if we had had no more principle, we should have come to Hays county, Texas, to engage in the newspaper business, and remained in it nearly ten years, in order to acquire a fortune!—heaven save the mark! Where is the fool-killer?

Now we will confess that after this length of time we are becoming rather tired of this sort of thing, and are resolved that if it shall continue to be kept up, it shall not find shelter behind the plea of ignorance, or any reasonable excuse whatever. We have never had any concealments as to our political antecedents, and no one need ever have been in the dark on that subject. And besides we published a newspaper some fourteen years before we came here, and our course was well known. But to make everything doubly clear, we will state that while we were educated in the Whig party, and on attaining our majority were a most ardent supporter of Henry Clay, yet lying back and forward of that, and from our earliest years of reflection, we were a thoroughgoing disciple of the old revolutionary style of Democracy of Paine and Jefferson, as we are today. Names are nothing—principles everything and unchangeable. Very likely, we think, our style of Democracy may not suit some of our readers, but it suits the great body of the American people, the laboring

and wealth-producing classes, and we are quite content in our humble sphere to represent and serve them.

During the late unpleasantness we of course stood with our section, but as soon as practicable after its close, we took ground in favor of reconciliation between the former warring elements and the restoration of the Union upon principles of right and justice to all. We joined in 1872 with the movement having that end in view, and in which the Democratic party as a National organization also joined. So far from having "flaunted the bloody shirt," etc., as charged above, we opposed its further sway, and thereby incurred the bitter enmity and proscription of its followers at our former home. We gave up no principle to come here, and had only the most friendly feelings towards this people. We did not however "seek shelter" here—having paid all our debts and lived the life of a law-abiding citizen. We were not obliged to come to Texas, and did not "leave our country for our country's good" as was the case with some in former times. Nor did we come as a carpet-bagger of any sort. We came first because of the ill-health of a member of our family, and second to seek the enjoyment of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" in our own way, as an humble private citizen.

But we are specially charged above with having "clandestinely advocated principles which we knew were antagonistic to the interest and feelings" of the people of this county. At first view this would seem to be rather mysterious. The Free Press having always advocated good morals, education, immigration and the building up of the country, a casual observer would be puzzled to conjecture how its course or principles could have been antagonistic to the interest and feelings of a good community. So that cannot be what was meant. From the use of the word clandestinely, and from various outside intimations, such as were contained in the Warning Postal Card from Kyle, to which we have heretofore had occasion to refer, we are led to suppose that the charge means that we have, through different editions of our paper, preached different gospels, one for the South, the other, clandestinely, for the North. Knowing such to be the charge which is being "clandestinely" circulated against us, we take this occasion to brand it as a lie out of the whole cloth. We answered it through our paper in 1875, when it was first made, to the entire satisfaction of all honest readers. Without going over the same ground again, we challenge the publisher of the Nutshell, or any of the men whose organ he is, to the proof. We will furnish a complete file of the Free Press from the beginning, and will pay \$100 in gold to any one who will produce from the record an iota of evidence in support of this charge. We ask all who have been circulating this lie to exhibit the proof, or forever after hold their peace. We however expect the latter as little as we fear the former. But if they go on wilfully circulating this lie, we are determined the people of this country shall know it.

We have thus met squarely every cowardly thrust and lying innuendo contained in our text from the Nutshell. We proceed to make some special applications as to our case. And first we quote from the St. Louis Republican of recent date as follows:

"A significant feature in the political life of Judge Hoadly, the Democratic nominee for governor of Ohio, is that he was once a Republican. He acted with that party till all its policies that in his opinion deserved to be adopted had been adopted, and then he abandoned it and cast his fortunes with the Democracy."

"There is nothing peculiar in this. It has been a very ordinary event since the war. The prominent Democrats who were once prominent Republicans are to be counted by scores, and the number is increasing every year. A proof of their sincerity and devotion to principle is that they deserted the Republican party in the fullness of its power and pride, when it had abundant honors to bestow on its servile partisans, and allied themselves with the Democracy, when it was out of power and had no offices nor emoluments to award to its followers."

Judge Hoadly left the Republican party in 1872. Judge Trumbull, who a few years since was the Democratic candidate for governor of Illinois, did the same. These are but samples of the scores of prominent men referred to by the Republican who belong to the same category. As one of the rank and file, we have the honor to muster in the same company, and have been just as true and consistent in our course as the best of them. The men who could not stand the wholesale frauds and public robberies of Grant's second term have certainly had no reason since to regret their cutting loose from the Republican party. The stealing of the Presidency in 1876-7, the star-route swindles, the murder of Garfield as the result of influences his in own party, the gigantic robbery of the public lands, perpetrated even by departments of the government, and hosts of kindred outrages on the rights of the people, all have gone to show that the first duty of a patriot is to labor for the overthrow of the party in power. We have been steadily in that fight for a dozen years past. And now we want to enquire why, while at the North they put up such men as Hoadly and Trumbull as Democratic candidates for governor, we, Demo-

crats here in Texas, an humble co-laborer in the same cause, are still to be hounded down as an object of suspicion, if not as a political enemy to the people of this country? We appeal to all good people if there is any sense or justice in this sort of warfare.

And we might properly further enquire, how long a man is to be put on probation in this country in order to establish his political orthodoxy? However, having seen some of the oldest citizens and democrats of this county mutually calling in question each other's democracy, and charging each other with being members of the "Loyal League," we suppose we ought not to be so much surprised at our own experience. This occurred however during a heated election, but there has been no decent excuse in our case.

We have referred to the attempt to run us out in 1875, and its signal failure. We wish simply to add, that while the scheme was concocted in this county, the "head-centre" of the movement, as we happen to know, was located in an adjoining county, and we have good reason to believe still breathes the same proscription spirit towards us.

But enough for the present. Mark, we are not craving a cessation of this mean and preposterous warfare. Let them keep it up who like it—we can stand it if they can.

"Time at last makes all things even."

Texas Press Association—Our Proposed New Departure.

Dr. Yandell, the new president of the Texas Press Association, replies through his paper, the Seguin Times, at some length to our recent editorial on the Needs of the Association, but only notices our suggestion that the presence of ladies be sought at the meetings and on the excursions of the Association. The Doctor finds various difficulties in the way, but with all due deference, we think they will not prove very serious. But first let us say, as regards his personal reference, that it was because we are well known to be free from any "entangling alliances" of feminine society and to have no claims to the social gifts and graces of some others, notably some of the "head men" of the Association, that we presumed to speak in behalf of the presence of the ladies, feeling that we could not be suspected of any special personal interest in the matter.

Dr. Yandell argues with some force that the admission and entertainment of ladies would be unfavorable to the transaction of business. But his chief points are that the cities entertaining us have only invited the actual members of the Association, and the railroads extended their favors to the same class only. But we are very much mistaken if the cities or railroads have so poor an estimation of the influence of the ladies as not to extend their invitations to them with alacrity, just so soon as they are made to understand that such is the desire of the editors of Texas. It is the Association, and not the inviting cities nor the railroads that need to be educated up to this point. And after all, the ladies would not be apt to turn out in anything like equal force with the gentlemen, so there is really very little in the objection; while a small per cent of ladies would not only be a vindication of a correct principle, but the Association would assume that gentlemanly deportment, which is impossible to have otherwise, as we showed in our former article.

Before closing we will say that we recollect that in 1860 the management of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and connections voluntarily tendered to every editor in the United States, and not only so but to his wife, sister, sweetheart or lady friend as the case might be, free passes on an excursion to Baltimore, Washington and down the Potomac to Mount Vernon, and return. We adduce this splendid act of liberality and courtesy as an illustration of the spirit of the railroads generally towards the press and the ladies, and we repeat, that in our opinion they only require to know that the editors of Texas desire, or would accept, similar courtesies on behalf of their wives, etc., to accord them freely.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL GRESHAM has decided against the Louisiana Lottery business, and all other like institutions. The mails will not be allowed to carry registered letters to any lottery.

An exchange indicates one of the most important uses of the local newspaper as follows:

When a child begins to read, it becomes delighted with a newspaper, because it reads of persons and things which are familiar, and it will progress accordingly. A newspaper in one year is worth a quarter's schooling to a child. Every father must consider that information is connected with advancement. The mother of a family, being one of its heads and having a more immediate charge of children, should herself be instructed. A mind occupied becomes fortified against the ills of life, and those braced by reading and study are of course more easily managed.

President Yandell, of the Seguin Times announces the following executive committee of the Texas Press Association for 1883: Luther W. Clark, Brazos Pilot; R. J. Wildgell, Athens Narrow-Gauge; J. F. Mitchell, Greenville Banner; W. T. Glass, Bonham Advocate; E. Bonas, Black Water; A. C. Seurlock, Cleburne Chronicle; J. S. Penn, Laredo Times; W. C. Hill, Bellville Times; H. A. Halbert, Corsicana Observer; J. L. Cooper, Georgetown Sun; W. P. Shelton, Cisco Press.—Longview Democrat.

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